## CONCORDE WILL NOT FLY UNTIL SUMMER

Stewart Gough 03/19/2001

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British Airways has admitted that Concorde is unlikely to fly again until early summer. There had been a prediction that the aircraft would be back in service by April following its grounding in the wake of the crash of an Air France Concorde in Paris last year, but latest estimates have put this date back by several months.

British Airways has been fitting liners to fuel tanks to prevent a repeat of the disaster that occurred last year, but the process has taken longer than expected.

The carrier must also await the publication of an air accident investigator's report and subsequent regulatory clearance before resuming commercial flights.

British Airways aims to begin a daily Concorde service to New York in June, but will not increase the frequency or reintroduce its Barbados service until September when it hopes to bring more Concordes back into operation. It has refitted Boeing 747's used on New York routes with more premium seats to accommodate Concorde travellers.

The feeling among UK tour operators that specialize in Concorde flights is buoyant with a consensus saying that they will relaunch their Concorde New York packages immediately upon resumption of the service.

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